



MANATABA MESSENGER

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June, 2007

BlueWater celebrates 8th Anniversary

Invites public to join June celebration, including culture, gaming and music

BlueWater Resort & Casino will celebrate its eighth birthday this June with events featuring native culture, gaming action and musical entertainment.

The Casino has been an important part of CRIT's economic development efforts as it has grown into a popular and fun attraction that has earned its nickname "The Prize of the Colorado." The celebration will take place June 16 and 17.

"We welcome all to come celebrate," said Dempsey Holt, director of marketing and entertainment at the casino. "The celebration will be filled with culture, Native American arts and crafts, as well as high-stakes bingo and a rockin' concert."

Visitors will have the opportunity to view and buy Native American arts and crafts as well as enjoy performances from local native dancers and singers all day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Mohave Conference rooms. The doors open at 1 p.m. for the \$12,000 High Stakes Bingo. There will be an early-bird session at 3:30 pm and the main session starts at 4 p.m.

The evening's concert features WildHeart, a tribute to Fleetwood Mac, followed by Desperado, the country's premier Eagles tribute band. Gates to Captain Jack's open at 7 p.m.

"The newly remodeled Captain Jack's, which sits right on the famed Colorado River's edge, will be open to all fans for Saturday evening's concert," Holt said. "These two tribute acts are

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The doctor is in...and is in CRIT



Cherie McCabe is flanked by proud family members, Theda, mother, brothers and sisters, Franklin McCabe, III; Sheila, Penny and sons Landis and Adarius; Nantanni and daughters "Lil" Theda and Nikki.

Cherie McCabe becomes first Tribal member to receive doctorate degree

Cherie McCabe became the first CRIT member to earn a medical doctorate when she graduated recently from the University of Utah. Dr. McCabe, a former Miss CRIT and child welfare caseworker for the Department of Health and Social Services, will now begin a three-year residency in Queens, New York, in her field of emergency medicine.

McCabe's proud family bestowed her with traditional gifts and heirlooms at her commencement ceremony.

"We have always been extremely proud of Cherie's accomplishments, but becoming the first medical doctor from our community is both historic and truly special," said CRIT Chairman Daniel Eddy Jr.

"I hope that she will continue to serve as an inspiration to other youngsters to pursue higher education and to help others."

McCabe, 30, was not only valedictorian of her 1995 Parker High School class, but also valedictorian of her 8th grade graduating class at Le Pera Elementary School.

McCabe graduated from Stanford in 1999

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Secretary's report marks Council progress

Action-packed first quarter for CRIT Tribal Council includes key votes

(Editor's Note: Tribal Secretary Valerie Welsh-Tahbo developed this comprehensive overview of recent Tribal Council actions for the Manataba Messenger).

By Valerie Welsh-Tahbo

Tribal Secretary

At the beginning of the year I was asked by the *Messenger* what I envisioned as the new Tribal Secretary.

I was pretty confident I knew I wanted to give the membership more of an insight and understanding of how our government works.

I wanted to build an office with accessible information that would allow for smooth transitions throughout its departments, enterprises and consultants. I envisioned an office of free-flowing communication with its constituents and staff, methodologies that would prevent board, committee, and council actions from going astray, and, more importantly, that would inform the membership of changes to policies and guidelines so that you are kept abreast of changes.

I realize that my term as Tribal Secretary is not long, two years with the tribal elections slated

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News & Information From Your Tribal Council



Daniel Eddy, Jr.
Chairman



Eldred Enas
Vice Chairman



Daphne Hill-Poolaw,
Treasurer



Valerie Welsh-Tahbo,
Secretary



Dennis Patch



Herman "TJ"
Laffoon



Fernando "Bo"
Flores



Richard
Armstrong



Dennis Welsh, Jr.

Tribes’ activity tax will generate revenue for critical youth services

The CRIT Utility Business Activity Tax, which received tribal and federal approval, will become effective starting July 1. This is an important step in an ongoing process that CRIT is undertaking to reform and streamline its tax code.

The revenues from this tax – which mirrors similar utility taxes common in cities throughout the state and nation – will be used for vital tribal health, safety and general welfare programs and services that will benefit both CRIT members and the local community. In this case, the revenue will boost services for juveniles, a critical need.

The Tribes’ Department of Revenue and Finance provided notice to utility retailers conducting sales of utility services on the Tribes’ Reservation of the implementation of the Utility Tax in April 2007.

This tax is imposed on all utility retailers selling utility services to tribal members and any person on tribal lands. These include tribal and non-tribal entities. Those services include water; sewerage system products; waste; telephone or other electronic signals used for communication; television signals; and the distribution of electricity, gas, oil, or other energy sources. The tax is similar to other governments’ utility taxes and to other tribes’ utility taxes that have been approved by the courts.

The Utility Tax does not apply to wholesale delivery of utility services, the provision of firewood to consumers, or the provision of fuels intended for use by the consumer in motor vehicles or boats

It is not known at this time what, if any, impact the tax will have on individual utility rates, nor exactly how much revenue the tax will generate. The utility retailer is solely responsible for paying the tax to the Tribes, regardless of whether any additional fee is collected from the consumer.

The tax is imposed at the rate of 3.0% (three percent) of the utility’s gross receipts generated from sales of utility services within the Tribes’ Reservation. The Tribes are committed to working with utility retailers to facilitate implementation of the tax.

Like all governments, the Tribes must generate revenue for the operation, maintenance and improvement of essential governmental services and programs, including law enforcement, health services, fire protection, and social and cultural preservation programs. Our efforts to update, reform and enhance our tax code are always done with those goals in mind.

Good news comes in waves to CRIT members

There is no shortage of great news involving the Colorado River Indian Tribes and its members in the June edition of the *Manataba Messenger*.

The *Messenger* would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation and congratulations to the following:

- Cherie McCabe. McCabe made history and has made her friends and family all very proud by becoming the first member of CRIT to earn a medical doctorate. McCabe is only just beginning. She will no doubt continue to serve as a role-model to CRIT youngsters as she finishes her residency and pursues her medical career. The *Messenger* wishes Cherie McCabe the best of luck in all of her endeavors.
- Volleyball stars. Congratulations as well to the Colorado River 18-1’s club volleyball team for its recent championship victory in the 18

Club Division tournament in Phoenix. The team showed the big-city girls how it’s done. A special pat on the back to the CRIT girls on the team: Lymnis Gonzalez, Secilee Hooper, Staci Mitchell, Tahnee Sharp and Amber Swick.

- BlueWater Resort and Casino. A very happy eighth birthday wish to the Casino as well as congratulations to all of the hardworking staff who have made the Tribes’ showcase economic development endeavor a continued success. We hope everybody has fun – but not too much fun – at all of the great events planned around the weekend June 16 and 17.
- High school graduates. The *Messenger* would also like to extend its best wishes to all of CRIT’s Class of 2007 high school graduates. Thank you all for your hard work (and for participating in CRIT’s annual Youth Day), and good luck in your future pursuits.

Fish & Game mourns passing of Rankin

Employees of the CRIT Fish and Game Department were deeply saddened by the passing May 12 of John C. “Jay” Rankin, owner of June’s Unique Bait and Tackle.

“Jay has always been a friend of ours personally and within the Fish and Game Department he will be sincerely missed,” said Chief Game Warden David Martinez.

Rankin had been a Hunting and Fishing permit dealer for the CRIT Fish and Game Department for about 30 years, beginning in the mid 1970’s, according to Martinez.

June Rankin, Jay’s wife, had a small store still located at 809 Kofa in Parker where she sold Avon products and nick knacks.

They soon branched out to selling bait and tackle since Jay was an avid hunting and fishing sportsman.

The store earned its name and reputation for being unique because of the array of items that could be found there. Locals would consign their odds and ends there making it almost a museum of sorts.

Jay and June were an encyclopedia of information on the wildlife on the reservation. Customers could find out at a moment’s notice

where and what type of fish were biting, where the best quail hunting was and the best fields for white-winged doves.

“The atmosphere was the best there and still is but you needed to allow for some time to spend in there because Jay would literally talk your ear off,” Martinez said. “Jay was our unofficial Game Warden. He made sure his clients knew the seasons and bag limits, he reported suspicious activity and helped us in many other ways.”

June’s Unique Bait & Tackle is and always has been the highest retailer for CRIT fish and game permits. June’s posted a third of the total sales annually, according to a review of sales for the last six years. Jay didn’t mind this at all he felt he was doing the community a service and in our opinion a community icon for all things good, Martinez said.

The following employees of the Fish and Game office would like to offer their condolences to Rankin’s family and wish them all well: Flora Geionety, David Martinez, Ray Aspa Sr., Oran Yazzie Sr., Martin (Teeny) Esquerra, Carl Harper Jr., Robin Martinez, Daniel Martinez, Jason Aspa and Charley Land.

— Letter to the Editor —

Charter school efforts lauded

I read with excitement and interest your recent article about the creation of Four Nations Community School.

I could not be more happy for you and

especially the children who will eventually benefit from receiving their formal education on the reservation by people committed to tribal values and objectives.

Please convey my sincere congratulations to Dennis Patch who I know has long held this dream and vision.

James L. Graves, PhD

Grads among many great photo contest entries



Submit now, win big in August

First place in the *Manataba Messenger* photo contest for June went to Laynee Tahbo for her photo of her daughter Lila B. James, age 8 (top right). She will receive \$100.

Second prize went to Bylli Esquerra, for her photo of Bobbie Esquerra and Dominic Cuadara at Headstart graduation (bottom right). She will receive \$50.

Third place goes to Estelle Fisher for photo of Queenabella Fisher, age 1 1/2 (top left). Fisher will receive \$25 for her entry.

Honorable mention goes to Amber Kelliwood for her graduation photo (center left) and Keegan Redbird Stanley, 14, for the Grand Canyon photo (bottom left).

The deadline for submissions for the August 1 issue is July 15.

You must be a tribal member, and no professional portraits are eligible. Send your picture to: *Manataba Messenger*, C/O Rose & Allyn, 7051 E. 5th Avenue Suite B, Scottsdale, AZ 85251.

Or, you may just e-mail the entry to feedback@critonline.com.



Museum to get new home in time for Indian Days event

In the next few months, the CRIT Museum will temporarily move to another location while the planning and development for a new museum facility begins.

The planned and approved move to the old Parker theatre will greatly expand exhibit space and allow for improved services to the membership.

A featured attraction at the new location is a Visitors Center, made possible through the Arizona Rural Development Grant, one of the largest grants ever received by the Tribes, according to Arizona Tourism Director Dawn Melvin. The Grand Opening of the new location will take place during Indian Days in September.

“This is a positive move in the right direction and the result of much hard work by my staff this last year,” said Museum Director Michael Tsosie. “The real challenge ahead is to build a new facility with outside donations and grant money. Given the support of the reservation community, I have every confidence we are up for the challenge.”

Tsosie will hold community meetings over the next few months to assess the needs and opinions of the membership in order to develop a mission statement that will serve the reservation and guide all future efforts.

Tsosie said that he hopes to hear from all of the membership in order to accurately plan for the expressed needs of the community in the new facility.

The CRIT library will also benefit from these efforts, Tsosie said. CRIT Planner Rick Ench is currently working on rehabilitating the building to accommodate the growing needs of the library. The museum move allows for the library to triple its existing space.

During the move, the existing museum and the museum gift shop will remain open for business as usual, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Library hosts Mohave language classes



Mohave language class in session. Foreground: Joanna Laffoon, Fern Barrackman and Geneva Moore. Left to right, Larry Gates, Sr, Amelia Flores, Casey Nopah, Iris Yazzie, Lenora Short and Phoebe Welch.

By Amelia Flores

CRIT Library/Archive Director

Tribal elders are helping to keep the Mohave language alive through classes at the CRIT Library/Archives.

In an effort to revitalize the native language among members, the Library/Archives recently hosted a Level I Mohave Language class in March and April. Co-Teachers of the classes were Mohave Elder Larry Gates, Sr., and Amelia Flores.

Gates and Flores led students through lessons centering on greetings, family relationship, foods, commands, mountains, and daily phrases for daily speech in every-day

contexts. Classes met twice a week for two hours.

Each student was assigned a class project to design posters on the following topics: “Is it critical to learn the language?”, “Why are you taking the classes?” and “What can we do to save the Mohave language?”

These posters are currently hanging in the Tribal Office, Accounting and Library lobbies.

A Level II class is being developed for the fall. And a second Level I class will be offered again in July for those on the waiting list. If you are interested in future classes or would like more information, please call the CRIT Library at (928) 669-1332.

New CRIT Recreation boxing program promises to become a big hit

When Charles Ducky was a teenager growing up on the Colorado River Indian Reservation, boxing taught him discipline, self-control and self-confidence.

Now, as an adult and with the help of his old coach, Ducky is passing on his knowledge to CRIT youngsters through a newly created boxing program.

The Ducky Boy Boxing Club has been training young fighters since March and has participated in several tournaments called “smokers.”

Though most of the 10 to 15 youths who regularly train in the program had little boxing experience, Ducky said it has been gratifying to watch their skills and conditioning improve.

“I was living in Phoenix for a little while, and when I came back I saw that there has to be something better for kids than just running the street,” Ducky said.

“What I see in the kids mentally and conditioning-wise from the time I first came is a

“To me, boxing just gives you something to work toward. You have defenses, but what I tell the kids is I wouldn’t want you using it on the streets. I’m trying to get the kids that are out there now and basically don’t have nowhere to go...they can use their anger differently. I got a heavy bag, then can take it out on that instead of doing negative stuff.”

**— Charles Ducky
Founder of Ducky Boy Boxing Club**

lot of self-motivation. I see lot of the older kids helping out with the younger ones.”

Also helping with the program is Harry Laffoon, who was Ducky’s boxing coach when he was a youngster.

Ducky is now 31 and owns his own plumbing business. Doris Burns of the CRIT Special

Diabetes Project is also helping out the program with a sponsorship.

Ducky purchased gloves, mitts and headgear himself, while the sponsor and other fundraisers like car washes, have paid for uniforms and extra equipment.

Boxers show up to train from 5 to 7 p.m. most nights. While boxing is a rough and tough sport, Ducky said it can do wonders for a youngster’s self-control.

“To me, boxing just gives you something to work toward,” Ducky said. “You have defenses, but what I tell the kids is I wouldn’t want you using it on the streets. I’m trying to get the kids that are out there now and basically don’t have nowhere to go.

“That’s who I’m trying to reach. They can use their anger differently. I got a heavy bag, they can take it out on that instead of doing negative stuff.”

For more information about the program, call (928) 669-1276.

Current job openings with CRIT enterprises

Position	Salary	Deadline
Tribal Prosecutor	D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Deputy Prosecutor	\$40,000 and up D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Warehouse Supervisor	\$8.50 - \$9.50/ hr.	Open Until Filled
Truck Driver/ CRIT Solid Waste	\$13.67/ hr.	Open Until Filled
Head Projectionist/CRIT Theatres	\$8.50/hr. D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Project Engineer/ CRIT Water Resources	\$50,000	Open Until Filled
EMT/ Firefighter	\$12.09/hr.	Open Until Filled
Headstart Director	Negotiable	Open Until Filled
Clinical Therapist BHS	\$40-50,000/ D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Water Maintenance Worker	\$8 – 10/hr./D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Agent II Tax & Licensing	\$30-32,000 D.O.E.	Open Until Filled
Deputy Attorney General	D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Water Quality Specialist	D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Wastewater System/ Septic Pump Truck Operator CRIT Utilities	\$9.50/hr.	Open until Filled
Groundskeeper/Maintenance	\$6.25 – 7:50 D.O.E	Open Until Filled
Big River Enterprise/ Kofa Inn		
Housekeeping	\$7.50/ hr.	Open Until Filled
Big River Enterprise/ Kofa Inn		
Irrigator — CRIT Farms	\$6.75/ hr.	Open Until Filled
Receptionist — Legal Department	D.O.E	Open Until Filled

For information on obtaining an application, call the Personnel Office at (928) 669-1320.

Upcoming Events

Family Movie Nights at Park

The CRIT Youth Development Coalition is sponsoring monthly family movie nights at Manataba Park.

The movie nights are part of the CYDC’s mission to promote youth development in the Tribal community.

By maximizing local resources, the CYDC aims to promote positive and healthy environments through a series of activities for children and families. Come check out a move on the first Friday of every month.

The CYDC is made up of representatives from a variety of Tribal departments; CRIT Police Department, Tobacco, CHR, WIC, Diabetes Prevention, Special Diabetes, Social Services, Behavioral Health, Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Senior Program, Child Protective Services, Recreation, Library, Johnson O’Malley, Probation, and Indian Health Services.

The Coalition meets twice a month to plan and strategize youth activities and to address concerns and problem areas where discussion and planning takes place to curtail substance abuse, truancy, teen pregnancy, underage drinking and other issues.

Current CYDC efforts include grant submissions through the Indian Health Services to begin an after school bike program for all ages.

In addition, the Coalition is soliciting funds to build a state-of-the-art playground and walking/biking path for children and families.

If interested in sponsoring a family movie night or to participate and become a member of CYDC, or for more information on movie times and what’s showing, contact Bylli Esquerra at (928) 669- 6577.

Dig Lounge Schedule

• May 29-June 3 — Nathan Owens Band, a six-piece all male band playing Funk, Rhythm & Blues, Motown and Top 40 Dance.

• June 5-10 — Fast Forward, a four-piece band playing Classic Dance tunes, 50s and 60s, Disco, Modern Rock and Alternative.

• June 12-17 — Pilot, with a female fronting a three-piece band playing Rhythm & Blues from the 50s and 60s, Top 40 Dance, Classic Rock, Old School and Disco.

• June 19-24 — New Breed, a four-piece male band playing Classic Rock, Alternative and Dance.

• June 26-July 1 — Swift Kick, with a female fronting a three-piece band specializing in current dance music along with selections from the 50s through 90s.

• July 3-8 — Staircase 27, a four-piece male band playing Classic and Modern Rock, Dance, Country and their own original music.

• July 10-15 — No Limit, with a female fronting a four-piece variety high-energy band playing hits from Pop, Disco, Classic Rock, Rhythm & Blues, Motown, Jazz and Country.

• July 17-22 — Suite 33, a high-energy variety dance band featuring Top 40, Classic Rock, 50s and 60s and Dance music.

• July 24-29 — Pilot.

Administrative professionals recognized



Some of CRIT’s finest employees were recognized on April 25 during Administrative Professional’s Day. Several CRIT administrative professionals were presented with awards and recognition on that day. (Left) Kenton Hough, Ginger Swick-Scott, and Suzette Miller. (Right) Glenna Welsh, Denise Carter, and Cheanne Hunter-Scott.

Homeowners given notice about HIP funds

The Fiscal Year 2008 Housing Improvement Program (HIP) funds are available for home repairs and renovation of existing homes. They are limited to new construction for qualified needy Native American families on the CRIT Reservation or “service area.” The number of qualified families depends on the availability of funds and ranking. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) eligibility requirements are:

1. You must reside on the CRIT Reservation or an approved “service area” and be a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe; and,
2. Your present housing is “substandard,” meaning a condition exists that is inadequate in terms of capacity to meet the physical needs and/or safety of household occupants and your housing is not a HUD home currently under Colorado River Residential Management Corporation; and
3. You must own your home or an approved homesite lease in your name such as land assignment or an undivided 25-year-plus

- (provide proof of ownership); and
 4. You have been denied or have been rated ineligible for housing assistance, or if you are without housing, you must provide proof you had no other resource for assistance from other lending sources such as Revolving Credit, HUD, FHA, banks, etc. (Provide proof of denial letters/notifications); and
 5. You must meet the income criteria. Proof of income will be required for all “permanent” adult members of the household (provide proof such as W-2s, land leases, retirement annuities, Social Security/Disability pensions, etc.) and
 6. You must have a completed application with copies of above-required documents and returned to the HIP Office by deadline date. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Applications are available at the CRIT Housing Improvement Office at 13372 First Avenue, and must be picked up in person. Deadline is 5 p.m. June 29. For more information, call (928) 669-6738.

CRIT Tribal Council enacts changes for Mohave Cemetery

By Michael Tsosie

Member of CRIT Cemetery Committee

The Tribal Council has recently enacted a series of reforms at the Mohave Cemetery to support traditional cultural practices. Simultaneously, the expansion and planning for a new Cry House facility is underway.

Tribal Council members want to assure those members that are “in need” that they will receive financial assistance through Social Services. Also, the Tribe provides for “choopilk” to the immediate family through direct application through the Treasurer’s Office.

In order to decrease confusion and better organize and coordinate services, it is required that the family designate and appoint a senior male relative to handle the arrangements on behalf of the family and work with the cemetery caretaker. In the event that there are no male relatives in the family, the relatives may request that the caretaker represent and assist them. The contact for the cemetery caretaker may be made through the Tribal Secretary’s office.

Although financial support for food continues to be provided by the Tribes, the family of the deceased must now make their own arrangements for the cooking and serving of food during the funeral. Usually friends and other members of the community support the family by volunteering to cook and serve; this is their “choopilk.” Particularly for large families and large funerals, donations and food from the community are always welcome and appreciated, and need to be given to the male relative in charge. Finally, the family has the responsibility to clean up after themselves and return the Cry House and kitchen to order so that the next family to use it will not be inconvenienced and burdened with extra work or missing equipment.

The exchange of money or charging for any work or services related to a funeral is an insult culturally and therefore the practice has been discontinued. Anything having been planned for in advance or in anticipation of a death is also culturally inappropriate. It is for these reasons that changes were made in staffing and in financial arrangements. The concept and practice of “choopilk” comes from the heart and not the Tribal Council checkbook.

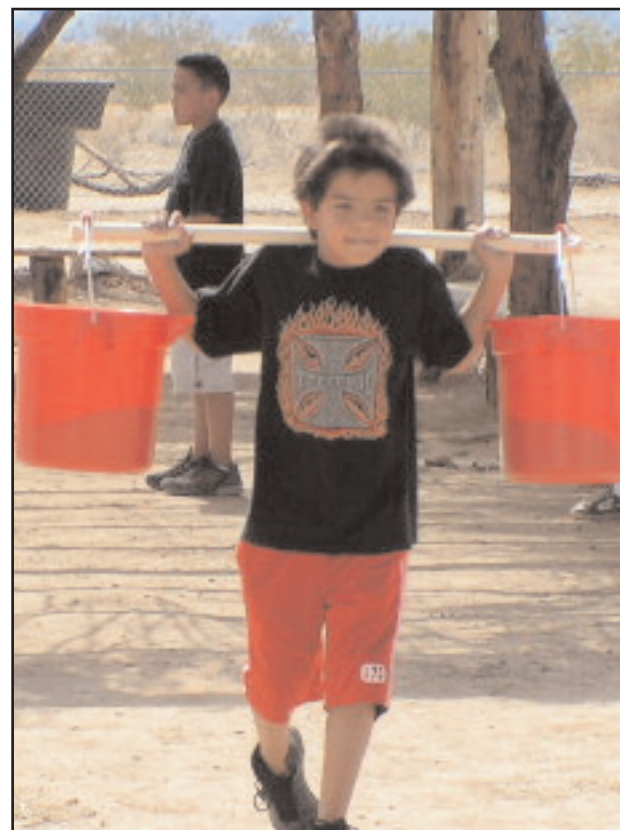
These reforms were made in order to faithfully follow Mohave traditions as outlined in the Creation songs. In following these important traditions, the Tribal Council wants to also remind people of the following:

- At all times, the caretaker must be respected and listened to during the funeral.
- Absolutely no eating or food in the Cry House allowed; the kitchen is the only place appropriate for eating. Remember that consideration and priority be given to guests that traveled to attend the funeral.
- No drinking of any liquids or drinks inside the Cry House.
- All drugs and alcohol are forbidden in the Cry House and in the cemetery itself. It is everyone’s responsibility to make sure that people

Competition teaches fitness, fun



The Johnson O’Malley Intersession Strong Kid competition, sponsored by the CRIT Special Diabetes Project, took place in March. Winners included (from left to right) Cody Esquerra (9), Tyler Scott (8), and Tylor Harper (10). The competition consisted of four timed events, including lugging plastic buckets filled with sand as pictured. During the camp, the kids also heard presentations from the CRIT Tobacco Program, Diabetes Prevention Program, and Library.



under the influence of drugs or alcohol go home and sleep it off.

- Respectful behavior should also be observed in the parking lot.
- Young children need to be supervised by parents and not left alone to run around and make noise. Crying babies need to be taken outside and attended to by the mother.

These common sense rules are being mentioned because it has been said by Mohave elders that younger people do not know the proper etiquette at a funeral. These were the ways of our ancestors that have been passed down to us, and it is our responsibility to pass on these traditions and this knowledge.

The Mohave elders have decreed that only people of the Mohave descent be allowed to rest in the grounds of the cemetery; membership is not an issue. Problems arise when non-Mohave spouses or children want to be near. Also, the elders have prohibited any Christian services at

the Cry House. Gang symbols, attitudes and the wearing of sunglasses are considered objectionable. They ask the people to support only the Mohave traditions and practices.

In 2006, the Tribal Council directed the planner to seek funding for a new Cry House because of the planned expansion of the cemetery grounds. New space was needed because most of the cemetery was near capacity and many people are without spaces to place their family members.

Over time, Mohaves have strayed from their traditions, and this explains why there have been so many negative feelings, complaints and arguments these past few years.

As one senior Mohave man stated, “If we do what we know to be right, then everything will be all right.” It is hoped that these reforms and clarifications set forth by the Tribal Council will help keep the people headed in the right direction.



Birthdays, Graduations and Announcements



• Congratulations to Cherie McCabe for receiving her degree as a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Utah! Finally! Time to Celebrate all your accomplishments! Best Wishes, Anisa Patch

• Happy Father's Day to the best grandpa from Jake, Jules, Camden, Kaitlyn
Happy Birthday Jason Patch! Love Your Cousins and Jake, Jules, Camden & Kaitlyn

• Congratulations! Scuba Steve, Class of 2007! You did it...Whew! We wish you luck in whatever dreams and goals you pursue. Just know that we are right behind you every step of the way. Your family loves you! Love, Madre, Dad, Secilee and Nikolas.

• Congratulations to My Grandson! I am very proud of you, Steven, for finishing high school. I wish you great things in life. I know you can achieve your goals and overcome any obstacles that come your way for you are a caring and compassionate young man. Again, congratulations! Love, Grandma.

• Congratulations to Lynnis Gonzalez, Class of 2007! Another worthy accomplishment under your belt! We wish you luck in your future. Knock'em and rock'em in college volleyball! You and Liz can do it! Love from your "volleyball family," Agresta and Sharyle.

• To the Colorado River Club Volleyball 18 Champs – Great Job! You won Gold Medals for your superb and awesome playing, but imagine what our small-town girls can accomplish, you beat out the big-city girls. Congratulations to our Tribal members on the team—Lynnis Gonzalez, Secilee Hooper, Staci Mitchell, Tahnee Sharp and Amber Swick. From your volleyball fans, Eldred Enas and Agresta Hunter.

• May 10 — My daughter graduated from CRIT Head Start on May 10, 2007. Congratulations Bobbie (sister)!!

• April 3 — "Happy 4th Birthday" Matthew Aydan Flores from your Dad, Mom, Brother and Grandma!

• "Congratulations" Anthony Joel Flores for graduating from CRIT Headstart! From your Dad, Mom, Brother and Grandma.

• Congratulations Quentin & Aleesha From Booth, Yazzie & Begaye Family

• June 8th — Happy 4TH Birthday Tyson Mykal Drennan, from your family! Grandma Tammy, Uncle "Sonny", Aunty Renee, and Uncle Tom - oh yeah, Your Mom too.

• May 18 — Happy Birthday to Cherie McCabe. Two things to celebrate twice the fun! From Anisa Patch

• Happy Birthday to Eldred Enas. A toast to another decade of great accomplishments! You deserve a big slice of birthday cake. Enjoy.

Love from your "Special Friend" Agresta

• May 15 — Happy Birthday Ferdina Barrackman
From all your coworkers at the "Center."

• May 22 — Happy Birthday Sharon Bow
From the Senior Center

• May 31 — Congratulations Jackee Leivas
From Mom & Family

• June 26 — Happy Birthday Phyllis (Annie) Jones,
From Mom, Patrick & Ora

• June 29 — Happy Birthday Son Jason Moore. From Mom & Dad Moore

• Happy Birthday Brother Lee Humeumptewa. From Humeumptewa Sisters

• May 31 — Congratulations Kendra Moore
From Soho & Quah Moore

• Happy 94th Birthday Auntie Kate
From the Humeumptewa Gang

• May 1 — Happy Birthday Allison Swick
May 2 — Happy Third Birthday Eric Poolaw
June 30 — Happy Third Birthday Eythan Lomayesva
May 30 — Congratulations to Allison Swick, Corrin Mahkewa
May 31 — Congratulations to Ashley Swick, Phillip Poolaw, Jackee Leivas
From Burke & Melissa Swick

• June 17 — Happy Anniversary John Laffoon. Love, Joanna

• June 1 — Happy Birthday Nellie Laffoon
June 17 — Happy Birthday Nathan Haven
From John & Joanna Laffoon

• April 9 — Happy Birthday Grandma
May 3 — Happy Birthday Anisa Patch
May 14 — Happy Third Birthday Azalea Evanston
June 30 — Happy Third Birthday Eythan Ray Lomayesva
May 27 — Happy Anniversary Burke & Melissa Swick
May 10 — Congratulations Savannah Miller
May 30 — Congratulations Allison Swick, Pauline Fisher, Allen McCabe
May 31 — Congratulations Ashley Swick, Lewis Fisher, Jackee Leivas, Phillip Poolaw
From Kevin, Clare, Samson, Eythan, Marilyn & Monroe

• May 10- Congratulations David Pruden, Jake Hill.
From Lindy Perez & Family

• May 18 — Happy Second Birthday Jayde Booth.
From Mom & Dad

• May 13 — Happy Birthday Shereaf Miller

June 9 — Happy Birthday Juno Miller
From Orlando Sr. & Gerry Short

• May 1 — Happy Birthday Dad
June 9 — Happy Birthday Meghan Drennan
June 8 — Happy Birthday Grandma Ava & Timmy Miller
From Muriel Miller

• June 30 — Happy Birthday Dad
From Shereaf Miller

• April 19 — Happy Birthday Joseph Poolaw
May 31 — Congratulations Phillip Poolaw
June 1 — Happy Birthday Phillip Poolaw
May 2 — Happy Birthday Eric Poolaw
June 21 — Happy Birthday Reyna & Little Richard
June 22 — Happy Birthday Josephine Tahbo
From Tina Evans

• May 23 — Happy Birthday Elaina Fisher
June 13 — Happy Birthday Lewis Fisher
June 18 — Happy Birthday Erin Fisher
June 30 — Happy Birthday Eythan
May 30 — Congratulations Pauline Fisher & Jeremy Fisher
May 31 — Congratulations Lewis Fisher & Megan Fisher
From Auntie Wilene

• Happy 2ND birthday my sweet Veronica Mildred Murdock! You are my forever sunshine! Lots of love
June 8 — Happy birthday Tylor Joe Harper! Hope your 11th B-day is a great one! We love you very much!
June 24 — Happy 14th Birthday Tyla Lynn Laffoon. We love you !
From Renee, Baby Veronica Mildred and Ronnie

• Barry Gabriel Setoyant was born on Dec 26,1986. He is the son of the late Hiawatha G. Setoyant and Fern Gonzales. Barry is greatly missed by the people who loved him. I still wait for him to come to my house and say "Auntie what are you gonna make me to eat?" I am extremely grateful to the community for their support and generosity in this time of great sorrow for the Setoyant family. Anyone that knew Barry knows that he was no angel, but one of the good qualities that he had was loyalty. Which at this time is more than I can say for some of the people that he extended his love to. I have no words for the great sorrow and anger that I feel for a life taken to soon. I hope that it is true that time will help lift our hearts. In closing I would just like to say see you later Barry my friend, nephew and brother. I miss you like crazy and I can't wait to see your smile and hear your laugh again.
LOVE, Auntie Joey

The Manataba Messenger accepts announcements on graduations, awards, engagements, obituaries and many other special occasions and events. To submit an announcement, see the contact information on Page 12.

CDO Congratulates Grads

The Career Development Office is proud to announce CRIT 2006-07 graduates:

- Lucinda Burruel, Tucson College (Medical Billing/Coding — Diploma)
- Bryan Etsitty, Toni & Guy Hair Academy (Cosmetology — Certificate)
- Cynthia Heredia, Scottsdale Culinary Institute (Culinary Arts — Associate Degree)
- Henry Redhouse, The Refrigeration School, Inc. (Electro-Mechanical Technology — Certificate)
- Alia Santiago, Pima Medical Institute (Pharmacy Technician — Diploma)

- Josephine Tahbo, Pima Medical Institute (Pharmacy Technician — Diploma)
- Roxanne White, Apollo College (Medical Billing/Coding — Certificate)
- Philip Enas, Jr., Arizona Automotive Institute (Automotive/Autotronics — Associate Degree)
- Shera Webb, International Institute of the Americas (Medical assistant — Diploma)
- Roy Casares, Long Technical College (Sports Medicine/Orthopedic Assistant — Diploma)
- Regino Ameelyenah, Arizona Automotive Institute (Auto/Diesel Technology — Associate Degree)
- Cherie McCabe, University of Utah (Doctor of Medicine)

- Amber Kellywood, Arizona State University (Bachelor of Science — Justice Studies)
- Chelsea Flores, University of Arizona (Bachelor of Science — Criminal Justice)
- April Sutch, Utah Valley State College (Associate of Arts — General Studies)
- Fawria James, The Bryman School (Associate of Science — Medical Assisting)
- Fawn Tahbo, Arizona State University (Bachelor of Arts — American Indian Studies)
- Ryan Tahbo, University of Montana (Bachelor of Arts — Journalism)

CRIT Briefs

News from around the CRIT Reservation

Invitation from the RIOT Committee

The Residents Initiatives Organization Team is a non-profit organization established by the Housing and Urban Development and the Colorado River Indian Tribes to be the liaison between residents (homeowners and tenants) of the Colorado River Residential Management Corporation and its Board.

This year, the RIOT Committee has assisted CRRMC homebuyers and tenants in bringing their concerns and problems to the board regarding their homes, neighborhoods and public safety.

During 2006, RIOT collaborated to bring financial, fire and public safety and other public health services to interested housing tenants and homebuyers.

The committee welcomes all tenants and homebuyers of the CRRMC to attend its regular RIOT meetings, held at 6:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the CRIT Lodge Recreation Room. Refreshments are served.

For more information, please contact President Neucha C. Ruiz at (928) 669-1330, or Secretary/ Treasurer Lydia "Penny" Vargas at (928) 669-1291.

School grant applications available

The Colorado River Indian Tribes will be issuing school grant applications for tribal member students in grades K-12, for the 2007-2008 school year, beginning Monday, June 18. Checks will be issued twice a week in accordance with CRIT Accounting's process. At present checks are issued every Tuesday and Thursday of every week.

Grant Applications may be picked up at the Tribal Office (front desk) or the Executive Office.

For more information, call Anita Flores, assistant executive secretary at (928) 669-1219.

Poston Web Site back up and running

The Web site for the Poston Restoration Project is now back up and running, though the site has a new address. The site is now at www.postonalliance.org.

The site had been temporarily out of service after the previous webmaster had let the Project's URL lapse.

Please do not use the old web address, postonproject.org.

The Poston Project is developing and creating a multicultural village that explores the living histories of the Poston Internment Camps, the Colorado River Indian Tribes and other American Indian experiences.

How to submit briefs

To submit a brief to the *Manataba Messenger*, please e-mail us at feedback@critonline.com, or fax us at (480) 423-1415.

Youth Day provides valuable experiences



CRIT youth had the opportunity to shadow Tribal Council members for a day, including enjoying the view from the dius in Tribal Council Chambers.

In a longstanding program, Tribal members who are graduating seniors got a hands-on lesson about leadership and government at CRIT's annual Youth Day. This year, 30 seniors spend the morning shadowing Tribal Council members and top-level Tribal staff members. Then they celebrated with and awards luncheon.

The youth who were assigned to Tribal Council members (pictured) were:

- Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. — Lynnis Gonzales
- Vice Chairman Eldred Enas — Phillip Poolaw
- Secretary Valerie Welsh-Tahbo — Kendra Moore

• Treasurer Daphne Hill-Poolaw — Katie Torres

- Richard Armstrong — Lewis Fisher
- Herman Laffoon, Jr. — Ian Miller
- Fernando Flores, Sr. — Dustin Yazzie
- Dennis Patch — Joy Esquerra
- Dennis Welsh, Sr. — Ashley Swick

Youths assigned to other departments were: Jackee Leivas, Valencia Berry, Talon Miller, Diandra Martinez, Eugene Ray, Alan Robledo, Taree Stewart, Francine Ruiz, Frank Stillman, Joseph Torres, Ryan Torres, Jenna Boone, Mike Breazzeal, Jon Brook, Joe Degner, Gabby DeLeon, Meagan Fisher, Jericho Flores, Nick Harper, Tyrone Harper, Steven Hooper, Kara Humeumptewa and Niota Wood.

Parker-area volleyball team takes club title

(Editor's Note: This article was reprinted in part from the azregionvolleyball.org newsletter)

One hundred forty miles west of Phoenix, Daniel and Maria Maya have taken the best of the city of Parker and made them champions.

It wasn't an easy road, but one that used the winds and bumps to their advantage.

"Their dedication is what got them to this level," Daniel Maya said.

And that level is the Region Championship for the 18 Club division, a first for Maya's Colorado River 18-1's team, which downed Club Red's 17-Black team in the final on April 28 at South Mountain Community College in Phoenix.

The team contains Tribal members Lynnis Gonzalez, Secilee Hooper, Staci Mitchell, Tahnee Sharp and Amber Swick.

Daniel and Maria run the Colorado River Club team to help further their region's play.

"My wife and I are both high school volleyball coaches," Daniel said. "We do club because you will not be competitive at State if you don't. Unfortunately we do not have easy access to club volleyball like the girls in the Phoenix area. We wish we had all of these great coaches available to coach our girls. We have to do it all. I guess the advantage we have is we are the only club in this area and we can pick the best to travel to Phoenix."

Maya was ecstatic about how his 10th seeded girls played the day and into the finals.

"They finally learned how to win a championship. We just told the girls to play to



Colorado River Parker Dynasty 18's Team Members: Mary Elizabeth Alford, Alicia Alford, Jennifer Dewey, Patty Flores, Maryam Gary, Lynnis Gonzalez, Secilee Hooper, Felicia McGee, Staci Mitchell, Elizabeth Preito, Tahnee Sharpe, Samantha Sosa, Amber Swick, Megan Zynda. Coaches: Dan & Marie Maya

win. We feel in the past we had played not to lose. The attitude of attack and score was what we tried to sell. What ever it was, the girls played awesome. It also helped that we did not have softball, track, or prom on this day. We were only missing one of our impact players."

But Maya points to an attitude that helped his team get to the pinnacle of their division.

"Championships at this level don't happen by chance. We are very proud of our team's accomplishment."

Diabetes Program touts success; reauthorization looms

The Special Diabetes Program for Indians, created in 1997 to combat an epidemic of diabetes among Native Americans, is up for Congressional re-authorization in 2008. Tribal leaders are asking Congress to add \$200 million a year over the next five years on top of the \$150 million a year currently provided through Indian Health Service grants, according to recent article on Indianz.com.

While the program was last reauthorized in 2002 by unanimous consent, Tribes have faced increased opposition from Congress and President Bush to more recent legislative efforts. That makes the 2008 reauthorization, while still probable, somewhat less certain.

It is imperative that Congress reauthorize the program, which encourages physical activity and increases awareness and education about diabetes and its prevention, said Doris Burns, CRIT's Special Diabetes Project Manager.

"Studies have shown that exercise is a great

way to lower your blood glucose and prevent diabetes, lower and prevent high blood pressure and it just helps reduce stress," Burns said. "Our staff will design and customize a fitness program to fit your personal goals and needs."

CRIT's SDP, as well as those Congressionally funded programs for other tribes around the country, has had many successes thanks to this funding.

In fact, blood sugar levels — one indicator of the disease — have dropped in Indian Country, contributing to a 40 percent reduction in certain diabetes-related complications.

The multi-faceted program features a state-of-the-art fitness center, which is available to CRIT and other Tribal members and family members (spouse and minor children), Tribal employees (CRIT, BIA, IHS) and their family members (spouse, minor children), and those who are eligible for Indian Health Services.

Burns said one of the more popular aspects

of the project are the monthly community and family "Fun Walks" offered almost every month throughout the entire year.

"We serve a wide range of ages from preschool to the senior citizens in our community," Burns said. "It's exciting to see our participants from the youngest to the oldest exercising and enjoying being physically active. We provide a fun, safe and cool environment to workout and we'll keep you motivated!"

Hours are 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 6 a.m. to noon every other Saturday. Along with community, group and one-on-one health education for adults, the project also provide school and summer intersession wellness camps for children and youth after school programs in collaboration with Johnson O'Malley (JOM) and other Tribal departments.

For more information or questions about eligibility, call (928) 669-2825 or drop by the SDP at 13367 First Avenue.

Chili cook-off focuses on family, sobriety



(Left to right, top) Chris Bender, Cheaber Welch, Judy Sands, Cindy Homer. (Left to right, bottom) Linda McCabe and Terri Gary.

The CRIT Alcohol Substance Abuse Program and Department of Health Services hosted their first-ever Chili Cook-off on April 21 in support of National Alcohol Awareness Month.

The winner was Judy's Mean Chili Beans, made by Judy Sands of Big River. Second place was the Diabetes Prevention Program and Third went to Blazing Saddles (Chris Bender).

Organizers hope to make the cook-off an annual event.

"Having family functions that do not include alcohol teach children that they do not need to drink in order to have fun," said Bylli Esquerra, DHS Coordinator.

A total of four teams entered the contest.

Esquerra especially wanted to thank the judges: Stacy Amador of CRIT Education, Mike

"Having family functions that do not include alcohol teach children that they do not need to drink in order to have fun."

**— Bylli Esquerra
Coordinator, Department of Health Services**

Drennan of CRIT Education and Luis Gutierrez of the CRIT Fire Department.

Alcohol abuse and dependence affects the whole family, not just the individual drinking, Esquerra said. ASAP/BHS encourages family members to actively participate in an individual's treatment to quit drinking and remain sober. For more information, contact ASAP/BHS at (928) 669-3256.

Diabetes Prevention highlights educator

The CRIT Diabetes Prevention Program would like to introduce the community to its Health Educator, Cheaber Welch. Welch took over the position nine months ago.

Welch grew up in Mililani, Hawaii, on the island of Oahu. Since childhood Welch has been involved in Diabetes Education through her father, who is a Pharmacist and involved in patient education with the American Diabetes Association. She met Oscar Welch, a CRIT tribal member, nine years ago while he was stationed at Schofield Army Base in Hawaii. They were married in 2000.

When she first came to our Community Welch worked for the La Paz Regional Hospital before coming to work for the CRIT Diabetes Prevention Program as the Health Educator.

"Cheaber Welch is committed to the prevention of diabetes in our community, and she does an excellent job as our Diabetes Prevention Program Health Educator," said Cindy Homer, prevention program coordinator.

"Diabetes is a serious problem for our Community and the Diabetes Prevention Program is here to educate and bring awareness to our Indian People that you can prevent this life threatening Disease," Homer said.

The program recruits tribal members 18 years and older that have been diagnosed with a medical condition called "Prediabetes." Research has shown it is possible to prevent diabetes through simple lifestyle changes such as:

1. Exercising more
2. Eating healthy food &
3. Losing weight

The program helps with these lifestyle changes by helping you watch your health closely, providing classes on eating healthy, increasing physical activity and losing weight and teaching the best ways to prevent diabetes.

For more information, call (928) 669-8090 or drop by the program office at 12307 Kennedy Drive, next to the WIC office. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

COUNCIL: Secretary’s report outlines key Tribal Council actions during 2007

From Page 1

for December 2008.

In the event I leave this office, I would especially like to see that all by-laws are consolidated and handy, software is upgraded to allow for secure networking relations and easier research, and a solid library of Tribal Codes. I have attempted to describe as much as possible based on our government’s structure. If, in my attempts to inform you, I’ve created more questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or come to the regular Tribal Council meeting held every second Saturday of the month.

Council votes come frequently

For the first quarter, January to March, Tribal Council convened 23 times, eight in January, eight in February, and seven in March. The Council’s percentage of attendance was as follows: Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. 84 percent Vice-Chairman Eldred Enas, 100 percent; Secretary Valerie Welsh-Tahbo, 100 percent; Treasurer Daphne Hill-Poolaw, 100 percent. Council members Dennis Patch, 72 percent; Herman “TJ” Laffoon, 60 percent; Fernando “Bo” Flores, 92 percent; Richard M. Armstrong, 88 percent; and Dennis Welsh, Jr., 60 percent. Be advised, meetings missed may have been attributed to being on travel, leave, or sick.

Reports from Standing Committees:

The Tribal Constitution allows for three original standing committees that must meet monthly. The Resources Development Committee (RDC), chaired by Dennis Patch, negotiates agricultural and commercial leases, and reviews building permits and home site requests. The RDC typically begins the year by ensuring that our farm leases are kept compliant through “show cause” notices, and if not, beginning cancellations to those leases.

Financially this is a very important time for the Tribes. It is when the Tribes receive revenues based on terms agreed between the Tribes and lessee. Negotiations between the two parties occur at every RDC meeting and are finalized at the Council level based on the Committee’s recommendations. Incidentally, this is how all the standing committees and boards function.

The RDC also addressed land assignments. The most beneficial act that you and your family can do now for those members who possess lands is to officially name an heir to these lands before the possessor passes on. This will prevent down time when lands need to be assigned and avoid sensitive discussion especially at a time when families are already grief stricken. The worst case scenario is if a family member is not named as the beneficiary to the lands then the Council may opt to retain the lands back.

Eldred Enas chairs the Human Resources Committee. Reporting to this committee are Fish and Game; Wildland Fire; Recreation; Colorado River Management Corporations; Enrollment; Law & Order; Employment Development & Training; CRIT Tourism Bureau; Fire Department; Department of Health and Social Services – Child Protection Services; Environmental Protection Office; Museum; and Cemetery. Every month, department heads cite



The new sign for the BlueWater Resort & Casino, which will be more visible from Highway 95 for potential visitors, was one of many happenings that took place during the first part of 2007. The Tribal Council was busy dealing with a number of key issues, including job creation, budgeting, housing, law enforcement and many others.

their department’s highlights, travel/training reports, problem areas, and staff statistics in a standardized report. Each department head is required to report to these monthly meetings, the recording of the meetings via minutes taken are then routed to the Council for either information only or any actions that are needed.

The Administrative Committee is chaired by Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. The departments that report to this committee are: Human Resources; Tribal Consultant Elliott Booth, who works closely with the Chairman’s office, and logistical projects of the Indian Health Services; CRIT Theatres; Auto Shop; Judicial; Housing Improvement Program; Legal Aid; Headstart; and recently Probation. All out-of-state travel and donation requests are addressed here as well.

As the government evolved so has the need to create other board/committees. These are: the Revolving Credit Committee; Finance; Utility; Tax Advisory; CRIT ACCO; Joint Venture; Irrigation; Pesticide; CRIT Farms; La Paz Regional (represented by Daphne Hill-Poolaw); Health Board; Business Enterprise Board; Big River Development; Education Committee; Liquor Control, Parks & Recreation; Resident Advisory Board; and Tribal Equal Rights Office (TERO). Tribal members are solicited to submit their names along with their personal expertise to help enhance the level of discussion to these respective entities. All memberships have specified staggered terms.

A busy first quarter for Council

Now that you have an idea of how matters are addressed and generated to the Council level, I have listed the actions the Council has handled in this first quarter:

Again the farm (agricultural), commercial, residential leases and building /construction permits meeting the guidelines established were approved.

On January 2, Council unanimously passed flying the flag in front of the Tribal administration building half-staff in honor of the passing or one of our Tribal members. At this same meeting Council also passed that an invocation be said prior to start of each regular Tribal Council meeting agenda and that all council agendas are posted on/near the chambers.

As part of governmental and administration discussions, all departments receiving federal funds through Public Law 638 were bought before Council to discuss their budgets. This was done to determine costs, scope of projects and what specific kinds of services are reaching the tribal membership.

At the regular February Council meeting, individual tribal members were appointed to various boards and committees. Council member Bo Flores was appointed in March to serve as the tribal La Paz County Fair bidder, and did a fine job in reporting his activity to Council. The Council approved funds for the Mohave Days celebration, which was coordinated by the Mohave Elders. Jim Wise, the Tribes’ Washington D.C. lobbyist, personally gave his report and continues to work on given assignments especially in the realm of juvenile detention and federal funding.

Council took action to deal with concerns about the Cemetery moving to have caretakers manage the “Big House” activities (see related story in this issue).

Please see COUNCIL, Page 11

COUNCIL,

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By way of Personnel, job descriptions for the Headstart Director, Grants & Contracts, and Human Resources positions were updated. The Council has hired a new Maintenance Director, Steven Eddy; Career Development Specialist, Lanna Flood; Enrollment Officer, Rochelle Booth; and the new Comptroller is Rose Crawford. The Drug and Alcohol Policy was approved and implemented.

Currently we have 3,754 enrolled members. The Enrollment Committee meets quarterly to give its recommendations on applicants; relinquishments; blood quantum amendments; certification of the semi-rolls; and to consider departmental requests for tribal listings.

Judicially, the Council has approved an appellant court judge and gave extensions to the end of June to the Chief Judge and one Associate Judge. Interviews were conducted at the end of May for said positions.

In law and order news, Chief Ken Schwab resigned in February giving way for Council to appoint Lt. Anton Coetzee as Acting Chief. Interviews were held in May with the only action being to re-advertise for another 30 days.

The department's budget negotiations are ongoing. Councilman Richard Armstrong has been assigned to lead the way and use his expertise to help forge our way to acquiring federal funds urgently needed in the Adult Detention department. The Council has come to realize – now more than ever through these meetings with the Bureau of Indian Affairs – that we will need to make a tribal pilgrimage to Washington to voice our concerns regarding the lack of funds and technical support filtering to this tribe.

Financial matters at forefront

Meanwhile, the Tribes and this region's Area Office personnel continue to sort out the financial woes. Juvenile Detention has earmarked tribal funds from the tax revenue coupled with community block grants to help construct the new facility. Dialogue will need to continue to determine a means to operate it programmatically.

This task has been coordinated jointly with Lt. Bear Don't Walk of CRIT Police Department Detention and Deputy Attorney General Lola Wood and members of Council. Also, the Law & Order's Pension / Retirement Plan is still ongoing with last month's meeting of certified officers whom the plan would affect and a representative for the Tribe's consulting firm. I commend our officers for doing what they can in securing our reservation during a time of change.

In the area of housing, CRRMC proposed an application for Tax Credit funds. The Council supported the endeavor. Currently the application is being reviewed. If all goes well, you will see a new housing project along with funds to renovate the CRIT Lodge units. Unfortunately, we were advised recently of the untimely passing of Jeffrey Woods, P.E. of MJW & Associates, LLC, Tax Credit and Bond Financed Affordable Housing Developers and expert in the application process. In his last meeting with the Council, Woods left encouraged that CRIT would be the recipient of the funds, and he put his

engineering stamp of approval on the application giving CRIT the needed scores when being considered.

On the legal front, the prohibition to do business with Davis' Hardware store and Dominos Pizza still stands. The same scenario is being played out on the California side of our reservation with a few business there opposing our tribal taxes. The action was taken to court according to the Tribal Tax Code, which Dominos and Davis' business fail to comply with.

The IRS has been auditing the Tribes going back several years and coming forward. This is a sensitive subject; however, the membership must be placed on notice. If you have not realized yet, the Accounting Department has asked for a 1099 Form to be completed prior to receiving a tribal check. Please remember you are responsible for reporting any and all financial support from the Tribes — for example, the higher education grants and scholarships, payments for goods and services, housing improvements, and senior, disability, or funeral aid, to name a few. The Tribes are making every effort to comply accordingly. Through the Attorney General's Office and our contracted legal consultants specialized in this area continue to render their best legal expertise and other matters that plague our government.

Wal-Mart plans moving forward

Our enterprise plans are ongoing with Wal-Mart. In December 2006, Tribal Council approved a lease with Wal-Mart. In May 2007, this document was modified and final approval was given by Council. Big River Development, 4 Feather Boat Storage, Big River Inn, and Kofa managed by Mr. Ray Bernal presented his budget and were approved. Mr. Bernal has been assigned to overseeing other enterprises, Aha-Quinn and the Blue Water Marina & RV Park whose lease will soon expire. Cogent Realty, Lyle Swenson, who manages the Moovalya Plaza-Safeway shopping center, visits the Council regularly to report how our tenants are operating and other matters related.

The Council has established Monday meetings to hear not only a report from Law and Order, but to monitor every step of the way the Blue Water Resort & Casino's renovation project. The funds to pay for the renovation come from the PCL settlement fund that has been set up and tightly monitored with every payment coming by way of resolution. The site will also bear a new sign as budgeted last year (see photo). It has been only recently that the fabrication for it had been completed. Advertising of our enterprise will now feature state-of-the-art fiber optics allowing for better visual advertising promotions.

Revolving Credit will lose an asset to the CRIT team this month. Council has accepted the resignation of Laura (Glass) Schmitt. She should be commended for her fine work in establishing the department as the viable program that it is today. Laura has worked diligently with tribal members who sought to build a home, purchase a manufactured home, apply for down payment on a home, replace their cooling system, improve their home, and even start a business.

Treasurer's job important

Financially speaking, Councilmember Daphne Hill-Poolaw currently serves as Treasurer

and jumped into the job with both feet. Council supported the two-day check run. In years past until now, our accounting department was running checks every business day, when most other governments have the twice or once-a-week run. This in itself will reduce posting errors and will result in a more stable accounting of funds. Denial of loans are on-going, this year there have not been any loans passed since Council took the action in 2005. The Treasurer has every month given a report detailing the flow of our finances. She is assisted by Chief Financial Officer Duane Hopkins and new Comptroller Rose Crawford. As for me, aside from being involved in many of the aforementioned discussions and decisions, I have been assigned to overseeing the Senior/Disability and Burial Assistance Program.

Along with General Accountant Clerk Erica Webb and Executive Director of DHSS Diana DeLeon are tasked with moving this service out of the Accounting department and in the hands of where it can be carefully case managed. Notices, once finalized, will be issued to all who participate in the program. Be advised, Council has given recommendation to begin putting limits on the utility bills submitted (for example, phone bills). Phone service already has allowances to pay the base charge and costs. Above that will be the individual's responsibility. This same concept will begin to be applied to other utilities. Verizon does have a LIFE LINE plan for Native Americans. Where possible, every participant will also be asked to apply, and this would bring down the overall expense to the Tribes relating to this service. Further, every participant who does not fall into the policy as defined will be removed from assistance. Currently, we are still in the draft stages.

I was appointed by Council as the Headstart Liaison and to the Nineteen Tribal Nations Workforce Investment Board relieving Sonia Stone after seven years of dutiful service. With the help of EPO Director Cheyenne Garcia; Solid Waste Manager James Alcaida; Fish & Game Chief David Martinez, we've begun tackling illegal dumping issues. We are looking to fine tune current codes and ordinances to make our lands environmentally safe and healthy. Please do your part by using your trash bin the way they were meant to be used. Do not overstuff your bins to the point debris overflows. The truck drivers will not pick-up the excess trash, and they must complete their run and will not return once missed, either. Your cooperation is needed in identifying illegal dumping when possible. Greater detail regarding this matter will be shared in future Messengers.

Conclusion

There you have it, Council's first quarter activities in a "nut shell." Each department has people working behind the scenes...someone researching, making phone calls, etc. and essentially keeping us in operation. I'd like to think I'm a part of that team and will continue to do my utmost in relaying points of interest to you. I would also like to congratulate all our graduates and commend them on jobs well done. Lastly, applications for the Miss, Junior Miss, and Little Miss Colorado River Indian Tribes are now available with its deadline of August 31, 2007 (no exceptions!). The competition will be held in late September or early October. Until the next issue, best regards — *Valerie Welsh-Tahbo*.

We Want To Hear From You!

The *Manataba Messenger* is a publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.
 If you have a question, story idea, suggestion, letter to the editor or anything else you'd like to see in the *Manataba Messenger*, call or write us...

Route 1, Box 23-B
 Parker, AZ 85344
 (928) 669-1233 or
 (928) 669-1223
 feedback@critonline.com

Also, for a comprehensive listing of key tribal information, back issues of *The Manataba Messenger*, tourism information and other CRIT Tribal information, visit the Tribes' web site:

www.critonline.com

Don't forget the
 August photo contest!

Advertise With Us!

Now you can reach the 3,500 members of the Colorado River Indian Tribes directly. *Manataba Messenger*, the official publication of CRIT, is distributed by mail to all members and at newsstands at prominent locations throughout the Parker area, including the BlueWater Resort & Casino.
 For more information, please call (928) 669-1233 or 669-1223.

DOCTORATE: McCabe is first ever to receive degree

From Page 1

with a bachelor of arts in Human Biology. While there, she was also a member of the 1999 national champion women's rugby team and was named "rookie of the year."
 "I just feel honored to be able to represent the Colorado River Indian Tribes," McCabe said. "I know I hold a tremendous responsibility by becoming the first medical doctor for my tribe. I'm very grateful to my parents, Franklin and Theda McCabe, for their love support and continued guidance in helping me achieve my educational and career goals."
 McCabe said that once she completes her residency she plans to move back to Arizona to work for the Phoenix Indian Medical Center.
 "I want to gain experience working with the urban Indian population," McCabe said. "But my long-term goal is to return back home to Parker and to retire there."
 McCabe, who is of Navajo and Sioux descent, served as Miss CRIT from 1999 to 2000. She worked for several months for the Tribes as a



Cherie McCabe with heirlooms received from her family, a star quilt representing her Assinaboine lineage and a shawl.

child welfare caseworker before returning to school with the goal of becoming a doctor.
 She remains active in sports, playing city league basketball in Salt Lake City as well as completing two half marathons and a full marathon in the past year.

ANNIVERSARY,

From Page 1

the best there are to offer and are sure to rock BlueWater outdoor amphitheater."
 Concert tickets are on sale in the Gift Shop and are a great value at \$10 in advance and \$15 day of show.
 On Sunday June 17, BlueWater has incorporated Father's Day into the eighth birthday party celebration with "Father Day's Bingo." Dads will receive a special giveaway with buy-ins at Bingo. Bingo doors open at noon with sessions at 1:30 and 2 p.m.
 Also a special dinner menu for "Father's Day"

will be offered in the Garden Café and River Willow. The specially priced menu options include porterhouse steak or prime rib. The casino card room also features an "8th Birthday Party Texas Hold'em Tournament."
 Registration for the tournament begins at 3 p.m. and the tournament starts at 5 p.m. Tournament buy-ins are \$88, no re-buys, no limit, 50 players maximum. The celebration continues with the grand prize drawing of "Crazy 8's."
 There will be eight winners of \$1,111 for a total of \$8,888. The drawing takes place at 8 p.m. just in front of the Slot Club.
 Collect your drawing tickets today by playing your favorite games.
 The evening culminates with appetizers at 5 p.m. and birthday cake at 8:30 p.m.



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